United Nations A/53/L.16

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
28 October 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 59
Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters

Afghanistan, Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Gambia, Indonesia, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/26 of 3 December 1993,

Noting the work of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council,

Noting also that, on the questions of the enlargement and reform of the Security Council, while a convergence of views has emerged on a number of issues, important differences still exist on many others, and that the Open-ended Working Group has not yet reached the general agreement called for in resolution 48/26,

Noting also that, when addressing matters relating to amendments to the Charter of the United Nations, both Articles 108 and 109 of the Charter calculate the majority required for taking decisions in the Assembly on the basis of the whole membership of the United Nations and not on the basis of the members present and voting,

Noting also the declaration of the Heads of State or Governments of the Members of the Non-Aligned Movement in Durban, South Africa (2–3 September 1998), regarding the reform and expansion of the Security Council, which reaffirmed the determination that any resolution with Charter amendment implications must be adopted by the two-thirds majority of the United Nations membership referred to in Article 108 of the Charter,

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Considering that the notion of general agreement called for in resolution 48/26, however understood, necessarily implies the consent of no less than two thirds of the members of the United Nations, namely, of the majority referred to in Article 108 of the Charter,

Recalling its decision 52/490 of 24 August 1998 concerning the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters,

1. *Stresses* that the matter of Security Council reform, while deserving urgent attention, is of such fundamental importance that it cannot be subject to any imposed time-frame, and therefore recognizes the need to allow Member States adequate time to further reflect on the question, with a view to identifying solutions on which general agreement can be reached;

2. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, that any resolution with Charter amendment implications must be adopted by the two-third majority of the United Nations membership referred to in Article 108 of the Charter;

3. *Reiterates* that the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council shall continue its work in 1999 in order to examine all proposals and submit a report to the General Assembly before the end of its fifty-third session.